

Message Text

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P R 100616Z NOV 76 ZUI RUEHCS #0291M 3160253 H/W ZDK

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

INFO DIRECTOR, USGAO, HONOLULU, HAWAII

SECSTATE WASHDC 5850

CONSULATE GENERAL, SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA 503

UNCLAS BANGKOK 30872

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AFSP, AGAO

SUBJ: SURVEY OF PROGRESS TOWARD MODULARIZATION OF FOOD PACKAGING

FOR AMBASSADOR HARGROVE FROM STAFFORD, MANAGER, BANGKOK

OFFICE, USGAO; SECSTATE FOR DIRECTOR, OPERATIONS ANALYSIS

AND GAO LIAISON (BF-GAO); BKK-77-8

REF: (A) STATE 256883; (B) BANGKOK 30184; (C) CANBERRA 8052

THANK YOU FOR THE INFORMATION IN REF. C ON ORGANIZATIONS
NECESSARY TO CONTACT IN PERFORMING OUR FORTHCOMING SURVEY (REF.
A AND B). THE INFORMATION WAS VERY HELPFUL, AND WE APPRECIATE
THE EFFORT INVOLVED.

IF AGREEABLE, STAFF WOULD LIKE TO BEGIN WORK IN SYDNEY.
HOWEVER, IF PREFERRED, STAFF WOULD BE GLAD TO DISCUSS THE SURVEY
WITH YOU OR MISSION OFFICIALS IN CANBERRA PRIOR TO INITIATION OF
WORK.

IF WORK CAN BEGIN IN SYDNEY, STAFF WOULD LIKE TO MEET WITH
OFFICIALS OF THE SYDNEY CONSULATE GENERAL (PARTICULARLY COMMER-
CIAL OFFICERS) ON WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 17, TO DISCUSS SURVEY AND
TO OBTAIN ANY INFORMATION THAT MAY BE AVAILABLE. IT WOULD ALSO
BE APPRECIATED IF CONSULATE OFFICIALS WOULD MAKE APPOINTMENTS
WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF THE (1) STANDARDS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA;
(2) PACKAGED GOODS SECTOR COMMITTEE, PACKAGING MATERIALS SECTOR
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COMMITTEE, AND CONSUMER GOODS AND SERVICE INDUSTRIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF THE METRIC CONVERSION BOARD; (3) MARKET MILK FEDERATION OF AUSTRALIA; (4) GROCERY MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION; AND (5) AUSTRALIAN CONSUMERS ASSOCIATION. WE UNDERSTAND THAT THESE ORGANIZATIONS ARE LOCATED IN THE GREATER SYDNEY AREA. STAFF WOULD PREFER NO MORE THAN TWO APPOINTMENTS PER DAY DURING THE PERIOD NOVEMBER 18 - 26.

THE PURPOSE OF MEETINGS IS TO OBTAIN FROM AUSTRALIAN EXPERIENCES SUGGESTIONS FOR THE BEST MEANS TO IMPLEMENT STANDARDIZATION OF PRIMARY AND SECONDARY FOOD CONTAINERS. STAFF WILL BE PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN "MODULAR STANDARDIZATION," IN WHICH CONTAINERS ARE GEOMETRICALLY DESIGNED TO SAVE SPACE.

INFORMATION TO BE OBTAINED FROM ABOVE ORGANIZATIONS BY EITHER DISCUSSION OR PUBLICATIONS INCLUDES: (1) DOLLAR SALES VOLUME AND NUMBER OF COMPANIES IN THE RETAILING WHOLESALING, AND PROCESSING SEGMENTS OF THE FOOD SYSTEM; (2) DESCRIPTIONS OF THE PACKAGING AND HANDLING SYSTEM BEFORE AND AFTER CONTAINER STANDARDIZATION; (3) ANTICIPATED AND REALIZED COSTS AND BENEFITS OF STANDARDIZATION; (4) PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED; AND (5) AGENCIES, GROUPS, AND FIRMS INVOLVED IN PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTING STANDARDIZATION.

STAFF IS SCHEDULED TO ARRIVE SYDNEY A 0920, TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 1976, VIA PA 812. PLEASE SECURE HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS AND ADVISE OF ARRANGEMENTS MADE.
WHITEHOUSE

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NNN

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